



For details, art or photos about FLICKERS media releases, contact Shawn Quirk ([quirk@film-festival.org](mailto:quirk@film-festival.org))

PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

## FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES ITS 2020 AWARD WINNERS

### Diverse Group of 263 International Films Shine at Academy-Award Qualifying Festival

(Providence, R.I. • Aug. 14, 2020) – **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** proudly announced the Award Winners for its 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Flickers, on Sunday, August 9, 2020. The Annual Awards Ceremony was held virtually on Facebook Live and received 2,700 international views. This year's Festival ran from Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. Due to the health directives and restrictions regarding social gatherings and COVID-19, the Festival was a hybrid event that included live screenings at area Drive-ins along with an online virtual platform. This year, the Festival was seen globally and garnered more than 42,000 views.

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)**, a major destination on the Festival circuit and recognized by the Academy as a Qualifying Festival in all short film categories, welcomes stellar filmmaking talents from all over the world to beautiful Providence, Rhode Island—one of America's oldest and most beloved cities.

RIIFF embraces both filmmakers and screenwriters with the sort of warm-hearted spirit that fosters long-lasting friendships, sparks exciting creative projects, and inspires artists to return again and again. Last year, five films from the Festival received Oscar® nominations and one, **"The Neighbor's Window"** by Marshall Curry, won for Best Live Action Short.

Along with double features at the Rustic and Misquamicut Drive-Ins, online webinars, industry workshops, special tributes, virtual coffee talks, filmmaker interviews, and post film screening Q&A's, the 2020 Festival continued popular annual programs. These included the Scriptbiz Seminar, the Rhode Island Film Forum, interviews on the Festival's weekly Rhode Island PBS series, "doubleFEATURE," the Youth Film Jury, KidsEye Screenings and an online summer workshop, a Virtual Awards program and the announcement of this year's Winifred Brownell Scholarship Fund Award winner.

The 2020 Festival was dedicated to the memories of the 671,371+ individuals who have lost their lives to COVID-19, including the more than 167,295 in the United States and the more than one thousand in the State of Rhode Island.

According to **Lawrence J. Andrade** Flickers Board Member, "In this period of great personal stress and professional uncertainty, our Board felt it important to pay tribute to those who are no longer with us due to COVID-19. Every life is precious and for those we have lost in such a tragic

way -- whose lives were cut short so unexpectedly -- our programming is dedicated in their memory."

**Steven Feinberg**, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film & TV Office, said "Congratulations to the esteemed Rhode Island International Film Festival for their 38th successful run of the festival during these extremely challenging times in our world. They were able to be creative with virtual screenings and conversations as well as outdoor drive-in experiences. A heart-felt and warm congrats to executive director George T. Marshall, programmer Shawn Quirk, fellow producer Larry Andrade, tech champion Tim Haggerty, Board chair Michael Drywa, Esq, and the entire board, support team, volunteers, students.

Director Feinberg continued, "You should all be extremely proud of your celebration of global films and a new wave of moviemakers from around the world. Thank you also for showcasing our beautiful "Ocean State" of Rhode Island. RIFF is a treasure we should all cherish. Thank you again."

This year's interns came from across the country and worked tirelessly to make the event a reality. From overseeing filmmaker contacts, public relations and marketing to hosting Q&A's, the Festival salutes these dedicated scholars: **Linh Vu**, Vanderbilt University, **Johanna Rose** and **Siyu Liu**, Boston University, **Juliana Verrelli**, Salve Regina University, **Madison Caress**, Vassar College, **Robert J Delany** and **Sara Maria Monsalve**, New York University, **Gideon Hamot** and **Maggie Davis**, Colgate University, **Lorna Doherty**, College of the Holy Cross, **Jillian Conley**, Skidmore College, **Perla Figuereo**, Bates College, **Malka V Chu**, Binghamton University, **Noah Crowley**, Temple University, **Victoria Beaudoin**, Pace University, **Corrie K. Traverse**, Providence College and **Alexander Valenti**, Brown University.

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

"Our sincere appreciation and gratitude goes to **Steven Feinberg**, the Rhode Island Film & Television Office; **Kristen Adamo** at the Providence/Warwick CVB; **Claire Collins** at IMCS; **Nina Stack**, The Champlin Foundation; **Marie-Jose** and **Laurence Gagnon**, Quebec Delegation; **Tom Oyer**, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; **Don Curtin** and **Kelly Johnston**, Channel 6; **Ashley Erling**, The Rhode Show; **Daniel Schwartz**, The Vets; **Ed Mastriano**, Cox Media; **Dr. J. Scott Oberacker**, Johnson and Wales University; **Fr. Kenneth Gumbert**, Providence College; **Jonathan Arruda**, The Dean Hotel; **Greg Nawrocki**, Hotel Providence **Todd Trebour**, RISCA; **Ruth Clegg**, Art League Rhode Island; short film distributors, **Katie McCullough** and **Ian Bignell**, Festival Formula; writer, **Chris Sparling**; director, **Eric Latek**; actor, **Michael Grando** and legendary actress **Marlyn Mason**, we hit a home run this year, further raising the bar for the future and next year's edition of the Festival," said **George T. Marshall**, Flickers' Executive Director.

"This year, we received an incredible number of inspiring and thought-provoking international films. Despite all the challenges facing artists in today's film industry, films continued to be produced and submitted. We are both humbled and in awe of the sheer talent that is currently on the global stage. Filmmakers from around the world with unique and inspiring artistic voices were championed this past week as we showcased their exceptional work and featured them in Q&A's and industry panel discussions. We are witnessing a global Renaissance in the cinematic arts that is taking place regardless of our current limitations from COVID-19, and it is a distinct honor to be able to share these groundbreaking films with our audiences," added **Shawn Quirk**, RIFF's Program Director.

**FLICKERS** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization that supports and promotes the film arts in Rhode Island and throughout New England. Over the past two decades, its production, the Rhode Island International Film Festival, has screened **5,764** independent films and videos out of **74,754** entries, presented **1,405** World/North American premieres, featured over **1,200** entries that were locally produced, and hosted **4,193** filmmakers and crew. Since its inception, over **499,000**

film lovers have enjoyed the Rhode Island International Film Festival and its programming, not including those in New England watching its weekly broadcast and cable programming series, **doubleFEATURE**.

Over its six-day run, the Festival screened **263 films** that included **83 World/United States Premieres** from **51 countries** including Denmark, Israel, Bosnia, Serbia, Germany, Australia, Iceland, Iran, Spain, Mexico, China, Italy, France, Brazil and 34 states in the US. The films for this year's Festival were selected from a record entry base of **6,417 submissions**.

RIIFF is proud to be one of 10 Festivals in the world that is an Academy Award qualifier in the Live Action, Animation and Documentary Short categories and a qualifier with the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). With vanguard programming that seeks to showcase new voices in independent filmmaking from across the globe, RIIFF serves as an exceptional platform from which to launch exciting careers for artists who deserve to be discovered. Eleven films that have premiered at RIIFF have won Academy Awards with a total of 71 nominated, and many have gained distribution with the likes of HBO, Showtime, PBS, Netflix and IFC. A wide range of competitive categories—including Comedy, Drama, Horror, Children's, LGBTQ, Documentary, Webisodes, Music Videos, Pilots, Science Fiction, and Animated films—RIIFF offers entrants and audience members a veritable buffet of great stories, surprises, and narrative formats. There's even a screenplay and teleplay competition, designed to give talented screenwriters some well-deserved industry credibility. At RIIFF, there's no shortage of ways to get noticed and participate.

#### **THE 2020 GRAND PRIZE SHORT FILM WINNERS:**

The winners of RIIFF's Live Action, Animation and Documentary Short Grand Prizes hold a special honor: they become the Festival's nominees for Academy Award consideration.

#### **LIVE ACTION SHORT: "Ivo" | Directed by: Christina Lande | Norway | 2019**

The teacher Iben (64) lives alone with her dog Ivo in a small coastal community in Lofoten. She's always felt like an outsider in the village, and life doesn't get any easier when one of her students claims he's been bitten by her dog.

#### **ANIMATED SHORT: "Gon, Little Fox" | Directed by: Takeshi Yashiro | Japan | 2019**

When Gon, a playful orphaned fox, finds that young Hyojū has lost his mother, he tries to comfort him and make amends for his own earlier mischiefs by secretly bringing small gifts to the boy every day. But Hyojū doesn't realize who is behind the anonymous gifts, and the two are headed for a heartbreaking climax.

#### **DOCUMENTARY SHORT: "Messania's Story" | Directed by: Laki Karavias | United States | 2020**

A childhood filled with laughter and friends, singing and games—cut short by the circumciser's knife. In her early teens, Messania walked the same path as millions of other young girls around the world, first undergoing female genital mutilation to make her marriageable and then being married off to a stranger many years older than herself. Listen as Messania shares her spiritual journey of identity from her rural Kenyan home to see how this strong woman—who could have remained just a statistic—found the determination to escape abuse, challenge harmful cultural norms, and sing a new song of freedom, for herself and for girls like her everywhere.

#### **2020 INDUSTRY AWARD WINNERS & SPECIAL AWARDS:**

#### **WINIFRED E. BROWNELL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

As part of its ongoing "Celebration of Women in Film and Arts", the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** is proud to announce the winner of the annual **Winifred E. Brownell Scholarship Fund**. Named after the recently retired Dean of the URI College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Winifred E. Brownell, the scholarship pays recognition to her career championing the arts and humanities at the University. The annual award is for \$1,000 and is presented without

restrictions to students at the University of Rhode Island, allowing the winner to use the money as they see fit.

This year's winner is **Lionel Jeffreys**, of Toland, CT who will be entering his junior year at the University of Rhode Island and pursuing a major in Film. His goal is to establish a career path in film directing.

#### THE RIIFF SCREENPLAY COMPETITION AWARD

- Presented to **Daniel Talbott** from Los Angeles, CA for his screenplay "**YOSEMITE**," that chronicles three young siblings who have been sent into the snow-silent woods in the Sierra Nevada foothills to dig a hole deep enough to bury a family secret. The script is both beautiful and tragic, brimming with raw emotion.

**Daniel Talbott** is a writer, director, actor, and a Lucille Lortel and Obie Award winning theater producer. He is a graduate of Juilliard, a proud member of Echo Theater Company, and a member of the Actors Studio.

#### GEORGES MELIES SCI-FI, FANTASY AWARD

The Georges Méliès Sci-Fi & Fantasy Award is presented to a filmmaker with a unique and creative vision, reflecting the work of the visionary French illusionist and film director who pioneered many technical and narrative developments in the earliest days of cinema. Méliès films include A Trip to the Moon (1902) and The Impossible Voyage (1904), which both are considered among the most important early fantasy and science fiction films, thus establishing the importance of the genre.

- **Robert M Schulbaum**, writer/director, "The Wrong Todd"

#### DREAMMAKER AWARD

The Dream Maker Award recognizes those who provide incredible service and support of the local film community and are a voice for advocacy of the film industry."

- **Lawrence J. Andrade**, Flickers; Director of Research and Development, Dominion Diagnostics

#### THE 2020 PRODUCER'S CIRCLE AWARDS

- Presented annually to members of the community who have actively worked to support and promote the mission of the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival. This year's recipients included:

- **Michelle Abbott**, Producer
- **David M. Dooley**, President, University of Rhode Island
- **Dominick Ruggerio**, Senate President, State of Rhode Island
- **Daniel Sousa**, Animator/Director
- **IATSE**, Local 481

#### THE COMPLETE LIST OF 2020 FESTIVAL AWARDS FOLLOWS:

#### BEST LIVE ACTION SHORT

**GRAND Prize:** (RIIFF's Official Academy Nomination)

"**Ivo**" | Directed by: Christina Lande | Norway | 2019

***JUDGE'S COMMENTS:** A dive into what drives human behavior in a small town in Norway. A film that truly puts you in the place of its characters and shows the viewer a world that you would most likely not ever see in person. Great film.*

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Interlude"** | Directed by: Eli Snyder | United States | 2019

Tied With:

**"Under the Heavens" (Seiva Bruta)** | Directed by: Gustavo Milan | Brazil | 2019

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**BEST SHORT ANIMATION**

**GRAND Prize:** (RIIFF's Official Academy Nomination)

**"Gon, Little Fox"** | Directed by: Takeshi Yashiro | Japan | 2019

*JUDGE'S COMMENTS: A beautiful, sweet and ultimately heartbreaking story told with exquisitely detailed stop-motion animation. The cinematography, lighting, sets, and character designs are incredible.*

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Grandad Was A Romantic"** | Directed by: Maryam Mohajer United Kingdom | 2019

Tied With:

**"KAPA EMAHU"** | Directed by: Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson | United States | 2019

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**BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY**

**GRAND Prize:** (RIIFF's Official Academy Nomination)

**"Messania's Story"** | Directed by: Laki Karavias | United States | 2020

*JUDGE'S COMMENTS: Timely, brilliant and unforgettable. A Chronicle of discovery and personal growth in a hostile world.*

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Dafa Metti (Difficult)"** | Directed by: Tal Amiran | United Kingdom | 2019

Tied With:

**"EL INFIERNO"** | Directed by: Raúl De la Fuente Calle | Spain | 2019

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**BEST FEATURE**

**GRAND Prize:**

**"Big House"** | Directed by: Jack Lawrence Mayer | United States | 2019

*JUDGE'S COMMENT: Compelling, a playfully absurd comedy that is brimming with spontaneity and filled with memorable characters. The cinematography is both nuanced and expressive.*

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Irgendwann ist auch mal gut (It's gonna be fine)"** | Directed by: Christian Werner | Germany | 2020

Tied With:

**Los Nombres De Las Flores (The Names Of The Flowers)"** | Directed by: Bahman Tavosi | Bolivia, United States, Canada, Qatar | 2019

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**BEST FEATURE DOCUMENTARY**

**GRAND Prize:**

**"Five Years North"** | Directed by: Zach Ingrasci, Chris Temple | United States | 2020

*JUDGES COMMENT: An incredibly timely portrait of one undocumented boy's struggle to achieve the American dream in spite of the mounting obstacles facing him, and a Cuban American ICE agent who struggles with what is right and what compromises are necessary. A film that documents America's broken immigration system with nuance and humanity.*

**FIRST Prize:**

**"TRUST ME"** | Directed by: Roko Belic | United States | 2020

Tied With:

**"Objector"** | Directed by: Molly Stuart | United States | 2019

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**FILMMAKER OF THE FUTURE AWARD**

*Presented to a filmmaker whose vision excites audiences and judges alike about the potential to produce compelling and successful films in the future. Sponsored by **Festival Formula***

**Haohao Yan, "The Speech"** | United States | 2019

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**BEST ACTOR:**

**Alexander Wertmann, "Masel Tov Cocktail"** Directed by: Arkadij Khaet, Mickey Paatzsch | Germany | 2020

*JUDGE'S COMMENT: Excellent film! It combines a crisp cinematic style with a creative, 4th-wall breaking technique, top-notch acting and editing, all to create an entertaining picture with meaning, insight, and a message!*

**FIRST Prize:**

**Vayu O'Donnell, "Survival Skills"** | Directed by: Quinn Armstrong | United States | 2019

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**BEST ACTRESS:**



**Anna Dzieduszycka, "The Dress" (Sukienka)** | Directed by: Tadeusz Lysiak Poland | 2020

*JUDGE'S COMMENT: Wow! A performance full of nuance and subtlety. Anna fully develops a perspective that has long been underrepresented. She creates a world within her character, one that stays with us long after the film has ended.*

**FIRST Prize**

**Christiane Conil, "The Saverini Widow" (La Veuve Saverini)** | Directed by: Loïc Gaillard | France | 2020

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**BEST COMEDY SHORT**

**GRAND Prize:**

**"Martin Fell Off the Roof" (Martin est tombé d'un toit)** | Directed by: Matías Ganz | France, Uruguay | 2020

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Trumpet"** | Directed by: Kevin Haefelin | Switzerland, United States | 2020

Tied With:

**"Mary and Margaret"** | Directed by: Gregory Caruso | United States | 2018

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**BEST EXPERIMENTAL**

**GRAND Prize:**

**"Any Instant Whatever"** | Directed by: Michelle Brand | United Kingdom | 2019

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Vertigo, AI"** | Directed by: Chris Peters | United States | 2019

Tied With:

**"Xylem"** | Directed by: Michael Hughes | United Kingdom | 2019

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**BEST DIRECTOR**

**GRAND Prize:**

**"Matriochkas"** | Directed by: Bérangère Mc Neese | Belgium | 2019

**FIRST Prize:**

**"NJUOKCAMAT (THE TONGUES)"** | Directed by: Marja Bål Nango | Norway | 2019

Tied With:

**"Cayenne"** | Directed by: Simon Gionet | Canada | 2020

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**THE MARLYN MASON AWARD**

*New voices, new perspectives by women in film*

**GRAND Prize:**

**Nicole Vanden Broeck, Director** | “**Elle**” | United States | 2020

**FIRST Prize:**

**Maria Brendle, Director** | “**ALA KACHUU - Take and Run**” | Switzerland | 2020

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**DIRECTORIAL DISCOVERY AWARD**

**GRAND Prize:**

“**Augustus**” | Directed by: Jon Alston | United States | 2020

**FIRST Prize:**

“**Under the Lights**” | Directed by: Miles Levin | United States | 2019

**Tied With**

“**Freed**” | Directed by: Josza Anjembe | France | 2019

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**BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY**

**GRAND Prize:**

**Saulius Lukosevicius, “Unfolded”** | Directed by Cristina Picchi | Italy | 2019

**FIRST Prize:**

**Sean Price Williams, Hunter Zimny, “Let’s Get Lost”** | Directed by Sam Stillman | United States | 2019

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**RIFF NEW ENGLAND DIRECTOR’S AWARD**

**GRAND Prize:**

“**Ruwatan**” | Directed by: Ernest Lesmana | Indonesia | 2019

**FIRST Prize**

“**Balk**” | Directed by: Gabriel Wilson | United States | 2019

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**SOLDIERS AND SACRIFICE AWARD:**

*Celebrating Stories That Commemorate America’s Heroes*

**GRAND PRIZE:**

“**Early Light**” | Directed by: Ted Schneider | United States | 2020

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**RIFF DIRECTOR’S CHOICE AWARD**

“**The Scottish Play**” | Directed by: Keith Boynton | United States | 2020

**Tied With**



**"Corono"** | Directed by: Mostafa Keshvari | Canada | 2020

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#### **RIIFF SOCIAL SPOTLIGHT**

*Bringing Awareness to critical and underreported global issues*

**"The Art of Dissent"** | Directed by: James Dean Le Sueur | United States | 2020

#### **Tied With**

**"Coup 53"** | Directed by: Taghi Amirani | United States | 2019

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#### **HEARTS, MINDS, SOULS AWARD**

*Celebrating Films that Reflect the Jewish Experience.*

#### **GRAND Prize:**

**"Shande"** | Directed by: Bob Balaban | United States | 2019

#### **FIRST Prize:**

**"Burka fil Mishmish"** | Directed by: Tal Michael | Israel, France | 2019

#### **Tied with:**

**"SHTETLERS"** | Directed by: Katya Ustinova | Russia, United States | 2019

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#### **BEST EDITING**

#### **GRAND Prize:**

**Kaname Onoyama, "Crazy Tiger"** | Directed by: Kaname Onoyama | Japan, France | 2019

#### **FIRST Prize:**

**Rich Williamson, "Thirty Eight Minutes"** | Directed by: Shasha Nakhai, Rich Williamson | Canada | 2020

#### **Tied With:**

**Kait Plum, "Higher Love"** | Directed by: Hasan Oswald | United States | 2020

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#### **BEST SCREENPLAY**

#### **GRAND Prize:**

**"She"** | Written & Directed by: Matt Greenhalgh United Kingdom | 2020

#### **FIRST Prize:**

**"Clay"** | Written & Directed by: Leonard Rääf | Denmark | 2019

#### **Tied With:**

**Sasha Collington, "Love Type D"** | Directed by: Sasha Collington, United Kingdom | 2019

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### FLICKERS' AMBASSADOR AWARD

*Presented to an individual who inspires and empowers communication and cultural understanding.*

**Kevin Haefelin, "Trumpet"** | Directed by: Kevin Haefelin, | Switzerland, United States | 2020

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### FLICKERS' INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

*Given annually to films or filmmakers who inspire social change and community outreach and strive to better the world in which we live.*

**"The Lesson"** | Directed by: Elena Horn | Germany | 2019

#### **FIRST Prize:**

**"The Reunited States"** | Directed by: Ben Rekhi | United States | 2020

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### FLICKERS INTERNATIONAL VISION AWARD:

*Breaking down international cultural barriers through film*

#### **GRAND PRIZE:**

**"Heading South"** | Directed by: Yuan Yuan | United States | 2020

#### **FIRST Prize**

**"Henet Ward"** | Directed by: Morad Mostafa | Egypt | 2020

#### **Tied With:**

**"Summer Fasting" (Jeune d'ete)** | Directed by: Abdenoure Ziane | France | 2020

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### PROVIDENCE FILM FESTIVAL AWARD

*Presented annually to a New England director whose work brings cinematic excellence to an international audience.*

#### **GRAND Prize:**

**"I Lost the Horse"** | Directed by: Yu LiuJing | United States | 2020

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### ALTERNATIVE SPIRIT AWARD (LGBTQ)

#### **GRAND Prize:**

**"Fabi"** | Directed by: Stefan Langthaler | Austria | 2020

#### **FIRST Prize:**

**"Féeroce (Fairycious)"** | Directed by: Fabien Ara | France | 2019

#### **Tied with:**

**"Take Me to the Prom"** | Directed by: Andrew Moir | Canada | 2019

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## KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS

*Presented to a film that resonates with the filmmaker within both children and adults alike.*

### BEST CHILDREN'S ANIMATION

#### GRAND Prize:

**"Mishou"** | Directed by: Milen Vitinov | Germany | 2020

#### FIRST Prize:

**"The Abandoned Block"** | Directed by: James Bourne | Canada | 2020

#### Tied with:

**"Killing Time"** | Directed by: Camille Guillot, Fanny Hagdahl Sörebo, Aleksandra Krechman, Sarah Naciri, Morgane Ravelonary, Valentine Zhang | France | 2019

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### LIVE ACTION Short

#### GRAND Prize:

**"Adeline the Great"** | Directed by: Jessica Mendez Siqueiros | United States | 2020

#### FIRST Prize:

**"Maradona's Legs" (Ijrain Maradona)** | Directed by: Firas Khoury | Palestine, Germany | 2019

#### Tied With:

**"Cramming"** | Directed by: Dan Perlman | United States | 2020

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### LIVE ACTION Feature

#### GRAND Prize:

**"Die Verhaal van Racheltjie de Beer (The Children of the Storm)"** | Directed by Matthys Boshoff | South Africa | 2020

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## GREEN PLANET AWARD

*Celebrating the vision of man's shared humanity and achieving sustainability on our planet.*

#### GRAND Prize:

**"The Toxic Pigs of Fukushima"** | Directed by: Otto Bell | United States | 2019

#### FIRST Prize

**"Beyond the North Winds: a Post Nuclear Reverie"** | Directed by: Natalie Cubides-Brady | United Kingdom | 2019

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## VORTEX SCI-FI & FANTASY AWARD

#### GRAND Prize:

**"Jack and Joe Don't Want to Die"** | Directed by: Kantu Lentz United States | 2019

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Willy Goes Way Back"** | Directed by: Ryan Wagner United States | 2020

**Tied With:**

**"Floss"** | Directed by: Zack Bornstein | United States | 2020

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**BREAKING BOUNDARIES**

*Films that celebrate the endurance of the human spirit and resilience in the face of injustice.*

**GRAND Prize:**

**"The Undocumented Lawyer"** | Directed by: Chris Temple, Zach Ingrasci | United States | 2020

**FIRST Prize:**

**"SANKARA N'EST PAS MORT (SANKARA IS NOT DEAD)"** | **Directed by:** Lucie Viver | France | 2019

**Tied With:**

**"Après ta révolte, ton vote"** | Directed: Kiswendsida Parfait Kaboré | Burkina Faso, France | 2019

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**BEST MUSICAL**

**GRAND:**

**"Cinderella Games"** | Directed by: Jessica Wright | United Kingdom, 2019

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**BEST MUSICAL DOCUMENTARY**

**GRAND:**

**"UPROOTED"** | Directed by: Khadifa Wong | United States | 2019

**FIRST Prize:**

**"The Offline Playlist"** | Directed by: Brian C. Miller Richard | United States | 2019

**Tied With**

**"Merely Marvelous: The Dancing Genius of Gwen Verdon"** | Directed by: Chris Johnson, Ken Bloom | United States | 2019

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**BEST MUSIC VIDEO**

**GRAND PRIZE**

**"Black Puma's Colors"** | Directed by: Kristian Mercado United States | 2019

**FIRST Prize**

**“Namewee - Getaway to Kaohsiung”** | Directed by: Namewee, Namewee Studio Production | Taiwan | 2020

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#### **BEST TELEVISION PILOT/Webisode**

##### **GRAND:**

**“MANILENNIALS”** | Directed by: E Del Mundo | Philippines | 2020

##### **FIRST Prize |**

**“I Am Sophie”** | Directed by: Tom Ransom | United Kingdom | 2020

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#### **FLICKERS' YOUTH FILM JURY AWARDS**

Awards were presented by **Angelique Dina**, RIIFF Youth Film Jury Program Manager, and the 2020 Youth Film Jury members.

#### **BEST LIVE ACTION SHORT**

##### **GRAND PRIZE:**

**“Clay”** | Directed by: Leonard Rääf | Denmark | 2019

##### **FIRST Prize:**

**“Between a Rock and a Hard Place”** | Directed by: Mads Koudal | Denmark | 2019

##### Tied With:

**“Jeune d’été”** | Directed by: Abenoure Ziane | France | 2020

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#### **BEST ANIMATION**

##### **GRAND PRIZE:**

**“Any Instant Whatever”** | Directed by Michelle Brand | United Kingdom | 2019

##### **FIRST Prize:**

**“Purple Boy”** | Directed by Alexandre Siqueira | Portugal | 2019

##### Tied With:

**“Ciervo”** | Directed by Pilar Garcia-Fernandezsesma | United States | 2020

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#### **BEST FEATURE DOCUMENTARY**

##### **GRAND PRIZE:**

**“Higher Love”** | Directed by: Hasan Oswald | United States | 2020

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#### **BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT:**

##### **GRAND PRIZE:**

**“Sundays At The Triple Nickel”** | Directed by: Jessica Colquhoun | United States | 2019

**FIRST Prize:**

**"With Dad"** | Directed by: Soren Sorensen | United States | 2020

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**BEST LGBTQ FILM:**

**GRAND PRIZE:**

**"Take Me to The Prom"** | Directed by: Andrew Moir | Canada | 2020

**FIRST Prize:**

**"Purple Boy"** | Directed by Alexandre Siqueira | Portugal | 2019

Tied With:

**"Adeline The Great"** | Directed by Jessica Mendez Siqueiros | United States | 2020

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**SPONSORS FOR THE 2020 FESTIVAL INCLUDED:** *The Rhode Island Film & Television Office, WLNE ABC6, IMCS (Integrated Micro-Chromatography Systems, Inc), Eurochannel, Edge Media, WSBE RI PBS, The Champlin Foundation, Unifrance, Dominion Diagnostics, The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts (RISCA), FilmFreeway, Rule Boston Camera, The Providence Chamber of Commerce, The Newport Chamber of Commerce, COX Media, Consulat de France á Boston, The Québec Delegation of Boston, The Vets, the Providence Tourism Council, Roger Williams University, Johnson and Wales University, Narragansett Creamery, Granny Squibb's Iced Tea, Empire Soda, Blount Fine Foods, Mendon Wines & More, The Rhode Island Brewer's Guild, Narragansett Beer, Seaside Pharmacy, Hotel Providence, the Dean Hotel, the Graduate Providence, newenglandfilm.com, the City of Providence and the Department of Arts, Culture + Tourism, the Providence Warwick Convention and Visitor's Bureau and special support from the Rooftop of the Providence G and the Acoustic Java Café.*

**ABOUT FLICKERS:**

The mission of the 39 year-old **Flickers Arts Collaborative** is to serve as a creative partner in the arts by uniting various media and arts disciplines that nurture the artistic process and support a vital part of our community. This includes multi-disciplinary art presentations; artistic and cultural activities; performance festivals; video and television productions and exhibition; audio recordings and broadcasts; educational outreach programs; and the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF).

**THE FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL** has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is a qualifying festival for the Narrative, Documentary and Animation Short Film Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) and the Canadian Screen Awards. There are only 10 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August.

**MORE ABOUT THE FESTIVAL**

RIIFF offers a variety of prestigious awards to some of the most talented artists in (and soon to be in) the business. The festival's Gilbert Stuart Artistic Vision Lifetime Achievement Award has been bestowed upon Academy Award-winning actors Ernest Borgnine and Patricia Neal, Oscar-nominated actors Seymour Cassel and Cicely Tyson, acclaimed actors of stage and screen, Paul

Sorvino and Theo Bikel, director Blake Edwards, special effects icon, Douglas Trumbull and production design legend, Joseph Alves. The festival's Creative Vision and Crystal Image Awards recognizing outstanding directors, actors, writers, film talent, have been awarded to such talents as Karen Allen, Zach Braff, Blythe Danner, Ioan Gruffudd, Rosa von Praunheim, Michael Showalter, composer Klaus Badelt, and children's book author Sandra Boynton. More than simply a film festival, RIIFF champions artistic vision in any form and is dedicated to sharing that vision with a diverse and enthusiastic audience that hungers for great storytelling.

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival** returns **August 10-15, 2021**. For more information, please contact us at 401.861.4445 / [rifilmfest.org](http://rifilmfest.org)

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